

Town of Tuftonboro
Budget Committee Meeting
January 29, 2024

Present: Rob Roriston, Gary Chehames, David Dauphinais, Brendan Gaughran, Chris Sawyer, and Selectman Albee, also present were Selectman Murray, Selectman Pike and Town Administrator Fraizer

Absent: Jeff Reisner

Chairman Roriston called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

It was determined there was a quorum followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Public Input: none

Approval: Gary Chehames made a motion to approve the minutes of January 16, 2024 with a couple of corrections. The motion was seconded by Brendan Gaughran. The motion passed.

Budget Items for Approval

Chairman Roriston called for a vote on each of the following budgets:

4324 Solid Waste: The Committee reviewed the 2024 requested budget and found the labor categories confusing. They requested that they be organized better next year. Chris Sawyer made a motion to approve the Solid Waste budget in the amount of \$543,721.29. The motion was seconded by Gary Chehames. The motion passed unanimously.

4619.1 Other Conservation; Agricultural Commission in the amount of \$7,500. David Dauphinais to approve, the motion was seconded by Brandon Gaughran. The motion passed unanimously.

Review of Warrant Articles

Mirror Lake Watershed Plan. A sentence was removed to make the wording clearer.

Major Road Paving and Neighborhood Road Paving. Chairman Roriston would like to know from the road agent what was accomplished in 2023 and what is planned for 2024. He would like to determine the reasonableness of the figures being requested in 2024.

There was discussion about the benefits of a Solar Array. The Budget Committee will primarily vote based on the fiscal benefit of the project versus a “green” decision. Selectman Albee will bring further financial analysis to the next meeting.

The Contingency fund offsets the reduce Highway Operating Budget, emergencies, and management of costs for large weather events.

Fire Engine 4, Chairman Roriston asked how it came about, he was under the impression that a Heavy Apparatus Fund would be established and discussed the need for a study to determine if the Town needed a direction for their emergency response in the future (i.e. fire truck or ambulance).

There were a few grammatical errors that needed correcting.

Chairman Albee stated the Board of Selectmen are comfortable with the amount of the Warrant Articles being approximately \$1.2M, the amount the voters are normally presented with.

Adjourn: Chris Sawyer made a motion to adjourn at 8:25. The motion was seconded by Brandon Gaughran. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Fraizer